


CFM strengthens one of Christian families' greatest resources: Each other!



CFM leaders were interviewed this month by Rome Reports news agency, as part of a series on family enrichment ministries in the Church. [View the short video here.](#) The story described how CFM helped support families during the pandemic. Our message highlighted how CFM small groups build community within the large parish and open opportunities to put faith in to practice. Please share the link with your groups, potential members and pastors.

CFM grows in Michigan parishes with new leader resources and training

Presidents Brian and Mary Ann Thelen introduced CFM to leaders from four pilot parishes in the Lansing diocese this month. The new parish groups will all have experienced CFM mentors to help them begin their CFM sections. A newly-produced Leader Training Course, made up of four 30-minute segments, introduces the Observe, Judge, Act method of social inquiry, the mission of CFM, and practical instructions for hosting meetings and family actions to prepare the new leaders to succeed with CFM. Parish leaders will also have eye-catching promotional materials that they can customize to recruit members and share the news about CFM in their parishes.



CFM's Method Guides Your Leadership Style

- **OBSERVE** your group: dynamics and individuals.
- **JUDGE** the meeting environment and the value you perceive in each meeting.
- **ACT** to make each meeting a positive experience. Make necessary adjustments for future meetings.



Renew Your Membership—Order New Program Materials Now!

Although your CFM group may have taken a break during the Pandemic, plan now for Fall 2021. Invite your friends to return to or join your CFM group when you resume your regular schedule, either virtually or in person. Renew your CFM group and invite others to join you. [Use the online or paper forms.](#)

We appreciate you, our leaders! Winners of CFM logo shirts!

Congratulations to our section and action group leaders who won polo shirts with our CFM logo during our Leader Appreciation Event on June 8. A CFM donor was so inspired by our work that they wanted to honor our leaders who so generously donate their time and talent to strengthen marriage and family and improve society. The donor donated a fixed amount toward awarding shirts for these leaders. Here are our lucky winners: Jim and Mary Robertson, Wisconsin; Tom and Kathy Rothermich, Kansas; Jim and Carol Stuber, Illinois; and Mark and Sarah Meinhart, Michigan.

Thank you to all of our dedicated and selfless leaders, who give so tirelessly out of love for our Lord and their acceptance of the call to serve. We also want to thank all of our donors who make it possible to grow the movement and help more families! We are stronger together! May God continue to grow the Movement and help families to "Become What You Are!" - St. John Paul II.



**Christian Family
Movement**

**Would you and your group like CFM apparel, too?
Order now. Store closes July 20.**

Help CFM spread the message by wearing CFM apparel. Wear it yourself and as a group! We are offering an online store with polo shirts, hats and softshell jackets. Don't wait! **Tell the members in your group!**

Order directly from sunrisewebstores.com.

Honor Grandparents! Share Your Photos

Pope Francis has established the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which is to be celebrated each year on the fourth Sunday of July to coincide with the feast of SS. Joachim and Anne, Jesus' grandparents. This year, that day falls on July 25. To express the closeness of God and of the church to every older person, Pope Francis has chosen "I Am with You Always" from the Gospel of Matthew as the theme for this first World Day for Grandparents and the elderly. We invite you to **share your favorite grandparent pictures** and we will share as many as we can in our Act newsletter and on our Facebook page, with your permission. This is a simple way we can honor our grandparents and the elderly.

Please share you photos by emailing director@cfm.org.



Pray and Act for Recovery from Pandemic

While many of us are starting to benefit from the retreat of Covid—thanks to vaccines and social distancing practices—many people are still suffering, especially in India and Brazil. Pray the Our Father each day at 8:30 pm for those suffering and caregivers. Identify local agencies that are helping connect people to health resources and volunteer. Give a ride to someone who wants to be vaccinated. [Support efforts](#) of

groups like the Jesuit Relief Corps for equitable access to vaccines .



“Show Us Jesus - Lead us to him!”

International CFM Leaders gathered virtually for prayer and catechesis on Magnificat applied to family life on the feast of the Visitation, May 30. More than 40 couples joined the call from USA, Asia, Central and South America, Africa, and Europe. CFM is in more than 38 countries. [Learn more about international CFM here.](#)

Married Couples Essential to Ministry with Families

Movements like CFM can help families by promoting dialogue among families, holding meetings of groups within the home, and making friends with other families, according to the hosts of a virtual Vatican Forum on family ministry, held June 9-12. CFM leaders joined more than 200 representatives of family ministry organizations from every continent.

The Dicastery of Laity, Family and Youth sponsored the meeting, entitled *Strategies for the Pastoral Application of Pope Francis' Exhortation*, as part of the Church's *Year of Amoris Laetitia* Family. The purpose of the Forum was to highlight role of lay movements and associations in accompanying and strengthening families.



Pope Francis addressed the Forum by video: “As Aquila and Priscilla accompanied Paul in his ministry, married couples can share in the mission of edifying the Church. Make room for married couples to participate in evangelization. I hope that all the communities and movements work to advance the pastoral care of families, for them to better understand how important the gift they have received, a concrete sign of Christ's presence in their lives.” [See the Vatican website](#) for details and recordings from the Forum sessions.

Each day of the Forum began with prayer led by families in Italy, Israel, and Spain. Presentations were in English, Spanish, Italian and French, with interpretation. Topics included marital spirituality, formation of those who accompany engaged couples, education of children, and the missionary role of the family.

CFM-USA President Mary Ann Thelen asked, “In light of the fact that we are called to share the good news or gospel of the family, what role can celebration play in evangelism on the family and parish community levels? Celebration is what we are made for and what we aim for as Christians as we await the ‘wedding feast of the lamb.’ Encouraging holy celebrations by Christians, particularly in the ‘developed’ world, for the sake of evangelization is a fundamental way to create and renew families and culture - the joy of love and the joy of the Gospel.” The Forum moderators agreed that celebration is a key way to attract people to Christ and said that the Dicastery plans to explore that topic further during the *Amoris Laetitia* year. Follow events on [the USCCB website](#).



Observe: What celebrations do our CFM groups have that attract new families to join?